

South Carolina Department of Disabilities and Special Needs
Self-Administration of Topical Medication Review

Individual:		Residence/Site:		
Review time	Reviewer	Title	Date	
1				
2				
3				
SCORING: If the individual can complete the task independently (without verbal prompts or manual assistance), place a 'Y' in the assessment results column. If the individual cannot complete the skill or requires verbal or manual guidance, place a 'N' in the assessment results column. An individual is not considered 'independent' in self-administration of topical medications unless all items are rated as 'Y'.				
Does the individual complete the following steps independently (without verbal prompts or manual assistance)? Record a Yes ('Y') or No ('N') in the appropriate column.				
Item			Review Time	
FOR TOPICAL MEDICATION			1	2
Preparation:				
Recognizes the time the medication is to be applied (e.g., tells time; associates with a particular activity, etc.)				
Identifies when medications need to be reordered and notifies appropriate person OR a system is in place to support the individual in re-ordering medication				
Washes hands				
Locates and places the following items on a clean surface				
• Gloves				
• Applicator such as tongue blade, clean gauze pads, cotton-tipped swab				
• Medication Administration Record				
Identifies and removes correct topical medication from locked medication supply				
Identifies the purpose of the topical medication				
Identifies the most common side effects of the topical medication				
Identifies who to contact if problems with medication occur				
Identifies correct site for application of topical medication				
Applying the medication:				
Prepares site for application (e.g. cleans and dries the site)				
Rechecks that the medication selected is correct				
Opens medication container				
Applies the appropriate amount of medication on the designated area using gloved finger or applicator				
Closes medication container				
Using gloved hand, spreads medication onto affected area until absorbed. Avoids rubbing the skin.				
Applies dressing to area (if appropriate)				